

## **Remark**

Applicants respectfully request reconsideration of this application as amended. Claims 1-3 have been amended. No claims have been cancelled. Claims 4-15 have been added. Therefore, claims 1-15 are present for examination.

### **35 U.S.C. §103 Rejection**

#### **McCall et al. in view of Day et al.**

The Examiner has rejected claims 1-3 under 35 U.S.C. §103 as being unpatentable over U.S. Patent No. 6,217,826 B1 of McCall et al. (hereinafter "McCall ") in view of U.S. Patent No. 6,016,400 of Day et al. (hereinafter "Day").

Applicants respectfully disagree with the Examiner's characterization of McCall and Day. As understood by the Applicants, McCall teaches a client computer system that loads an operating system over a network from a server, boots the operating system, and modifies the operating system in its (the client's) memory. (see col. 1, lines 57-67). The boot image downloaded from the server is a generic image used for all clients (see col 3, lines 6-7). This allows the client to "perform a sequence of processes without ever rebooting from the network, or requiring the server to modify the generic boot image stored on the server." (see col. 4, lines 64-67). In particular, the changes made to the operating system by the client only change the operating system for that particular client, during that particular session. The generic boot image on the server is not modified.

Day teaches a method for preloading software onto a computer system during the system assembly process (see col. 1, lines 66-67, through col. 2, line 1). An optical storage medium is loaded into an optical disk drive and a manufacturing diskette, specifying which software on the optical storage medium is to be installed, is loaded into

the diskette drive (see col. 2, lines 1-12). The computer system is then booted from the optical storage medium and the software defined by the manufacturing diskette is loaded onto the computer (see col. 2, lines 14-17).

In contrast, claim 1 recites “a network computer (NC) client causing a plurality of NC clients that are booted to receive operating system software that is configured differently than that currently in effect by replacing one or more system volumes on the NC server containing the operating system software with one or more different system volumes.” In claim 1, the one or more system volumes on the NC server are replaced with different system volumes. Neither McCall nor Day teach or suggest replacing system volumes on a server with different system volumes. Therefore, Applicants respectfully submit that claim 1 is allowable over these references.

Claims 2-3 and new claims 11-15 contain limitations similar to those in claim 1. New claims 4-10 depend on one of claims 1-3. Accordingly, claims 2-15 are believed to be allowable over these references for at least the reasons stated above in reference to claim 1.

### **35 U.S.C. §102 Rejection**

#### **Chase-Salerno et al.**

The Examiner has rejected claims 1-3 under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 6,253,209 of Chase-Salerno et al. (hereinafter “Chase-Salerno”).

Applicants respectfully disagree with the Examiner’s characterization of Chase-Salerno.

As understood by the Applicants, Chase-Salerno teaches a method for remotely administering nodes to provide mirroring or designating alternate volume groups for the

nodes (see Abstract, lines 1-4). The administration of the nodes is performed from a central workstation (see col. 6, lines 34-38). “The control workstation provides a single point of control wherein the control workstation provides the interfaces to create, delete, or update Volume\_Group objects...” (see col. 6, lines 29-32). The method of Chase-Salerno requires an administer to utilize a central workstation to make any changes to a node’s volume. Additionally, the method of Chase-Salerno does not make changes to a node’s volume group by changing a volume on the central workstation. Instead, the changes are made directly on the node and are only managed from the central workstation.

In contrast, claim 1 recites “a network computer (NC) client causing a plurality of NC clients that are booted to receive operating system software that is configured differently than that currently in effect by replacing one or more system volumes on the NC server containing the operating system software with one or more different system volumes.” In claim 1, the one or more system volumes on the NC server are replaced with different system volumes. Additionally, “a client” causes “the plurality of clients that are booted to receive operating system software that is configured differently than that currently in effect.” Chase-Salerno does not teach or suggest replacing system volumes on a server with different system volumes or a client causing other clients to receive operating system software different that that currently in effect. Therefore, Applicants respectfully submit that claim 1 is allowable over this reference.

Claims 2-3 and new claims 11-15 contain limitations similar to those in claim 1. New claims 4-10 depend on one of claims 1-3. Accordingly, claims 2-15 are believed to be allowable over this reference for at least the reasons stated above in reference to claim

**35 U.S.C. §102 Rejection****Jollands**

The Examiner has rejected claims 1-3 under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 6,292,941 of Jollands (hereinafter “Jollands”). Applicants respectfully disagree with the Examiner’s characterization of Jollands.

As understood by the Applicants, Jolland teaches a remote management computer providing a modular definition of an operating system to a local computer (see Abstract, lines 3-8). The standard operating system is installed on the local computer and is customized using a model provided by the server (see Abstract, lines 8-12). In particular, the management computer provides configuration rules for the local computer to use during installation of the operating system (see col. 8, lines 41-49).

In contrast, claim 1 recites “a client of a plurality of NC clients causing those of the plurality of NC clients that are subsequently booted to receive operating system software that is configured differently than that currently in effect by replacing one or more system volumes on the NC server containing the operating system software with one or more different system volumes.” In claim 1, the one or more system volumes on the NC server are replaced with different system volumes. Additionally, “a client” causes “the plurality of clients that are subsequently booted to receive operating system software that is configured differently than that currently in effect.” Jollands does not teach or suggest replacing system volumes on a server with different system volumes or a client causing other clients to receive operating system software different than that currently in effect. Therefore, Applicants respectfully submit that claim 1 is allowable

over this reference.

Claims 2-3 and new claims 11-15 contain limitations similar to those in claim 1. New claims 4-10 depend on one of claims 1-3. Accordingly, claims 2-15 are believed to be allowable over this reference for at least the reasons stated above in reference to claim 1.

### **Conclusion**

Applicants respectfully submit that the rejections have been overcome by the amendment and remark, and that the claims as amended are now in condition for allowance. Accordingly, Applicants respectfully request the rejections be withdrawn and the claims as amended be allowed.

### **Invitation for a Telephone Interview**

The Examiner is requested to call the undersigned at (303) 740-1980 if there remains any issue with allowance of the case.

### **Request for an Extension of Time**

The Applicants respectfully petitions for an extension of time to respond to the outstanding Office Action pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 1.136(a) should one be necessary. Please charge our Deposit Account No. 02-2666 to cover the necessary fee under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17 for such an extension.

### **Charge our Deposit Account**

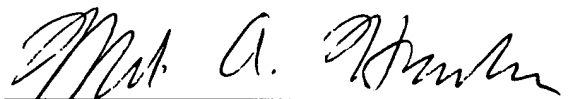
Please charge any shortage to our Deposit Account No. 02-2666.

Respectfully submitted,

BLAKELY, SOKOLOFF, TAYLOR & ZAFMAN LLP

Date:

7/15/02



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1. (Once Amended) A method of ~~managing a network computer (NC) system~~ including an NC server and a plurality of NC clients, the method comprising a network computer (NC) client ~~an NC client of the plurality of NC clients~~ causing those of the a plurality of NC clients that are subsequently booted to receive operating system software that is configured differently than that currently in effect by replacing one or more system volumes on a ~~the~~ NC server containing the operating system software with one or more different system volumes.

2. (Once Amended) A method of ~~managing a network computer (NC) system~~ including an NC server and a plurality of NC clients, the method comprising:

a network computer (NC) ~~an NC client of the plurality of NC clients~~ causing a working copy of one or more system volumes on a ~~the~~ NC server to be created by copying the one or more system volumes to a storage area separate from the location of the one or more system volumes, the one or more system volumes containing operating system software that is utilized by each of the plurality of NC clients; and

the NC client causing a ~~those of the NC clients of the plurality of NC clients~~ that are subsequently booted to utilize an altered operating system by modifying the working copy and replacing the one or more system volumes with the working copy.

3. (Once Amended) A method of ~~managing a network computer (NC) system, the method comprising:~~

a network computer (NC) ~~an NC client~~ booting from a boot image provided by a

an NC server, the boot image including information identifying the location of one or more system volumes on the NC server, the one or more system volumes containing operating system software;

creating a working copy of the one or more system volumes by copying the one or more system volumes to a storage area separate from the location of the one or more system volumes; and

changing the operating system software supplied by the NC server to subsequently booted NC clients by modifying the working copy and replacing the one or more system volumes with the working copy.

Claims 4-15 are New.